



# FEMA

**MINUTES OF THE  
FEDERAL INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE ON  
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (FICEMS)  
Ambulance Safety Subcommittee**

<b>DATE &amp; TIME:</b>	December 1, 2005, 1:00 p.m.
<b>LOCATION:</b>	HHS, HRSA Parklawn Building, Potomac Conference Room Rockville, MD
<b>MEMBER AGENCY REPRESENTATION:</b>	<b>Department of Homeland Security</b> <i>Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)</i> Mr. John Brasko, Acting Chairman United States Fire Administration  Mr. Bill Troop* United States Fire Administration  Ms. Cathy Broughton United States Fire Administration
	<b>Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)</b> Mr. Paul Moore, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH)*  Mr. Terry Mullins, HRSA – Trauma EMS Technical Assistance Center  Dr. Dave Boyd, Indian Health Services
	<b>Department of Agriculture</b> No Representation
	<b>Department of Commerce (DOC)</b> No Representation
	<b>Department of Defense (DOD)</b> No Representation

	<b>Department of Interior</b> No Representation
	<b>Department of Justice (DOJ)</b> No Representation
	<b>Department of Labor</b> Ms. Roberta Joyce* OSHA, Colorado  Mr. Steve Yellstrom* OSHA, Colorado
	<b>Department of Transportation (DOT)</b> Mr. Dave Bryson National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA)
	<b>Department of Veteran Affairs</b> No Representation
	<b>Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)</b> No Representation
	<b>Federal Communications Commission</b> No Representation
	<b>General Services Administration (GSA)</b> Mr. John McDonald*
<b>OTHER ATTENDEES PRIVATE SECTOR:</b>	<b>American Ambulance Association</b> Mr. Kurt Krumperman
	<b>Centronia Ambulance Corps</b> Mr. Larry Wiersch*
	<b>Harlem Hospital</b> Dr. Nadine Levick*
	<b>Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation</b> Dr. Les Becker*

*\*Dial-in Participants*

## **I. ANNOUNCEMENTS & INTRODUCTIONS**

Mr. John Brasko called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. and proceeded with introductions and welcomed the group. Mr. Brasko mentioned that he was chairing the meeting on behalf of Nancy Romano as she is not available to attend today.

## **II. REVIEW OF PAST MEETING MINUTES & ACTION ITEMS**

Mr. Brasko made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 2005 meeting, the motion was second and the minutes were approved.

Mr. Brasko mentioned that Ms. Romano provided a report that he reviewed including the topics below:

- At the September 2005 FICEMS meeting Larry Wiersch announced that the AAA conference would be held on November 28 thru December 2, 2005 in Las Vegas. Currently in progress, the meeting is focusing on vehicle safety driving practices. Brian Maguire will be presenting on the influence of the human factor.
- A: Billy Rutherford will conduct a teleconference regarding simulators in November.  
S: The date has been pushed forward, and will be scheduled sometime in December or January. Once a date has been determined, it will be announced.
- A: Mr. Rahab and Mr. Worrell made a request to be added to the AS database.  
S: This request was completed.

## **III. NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Brasko reported that he didn't have any new business but opened the floor for others to report on new business.

Mr. Bryson, NHTSA, reported that the Ambulance Safety meeting is progressing, but really nothing new to report other than some agenda items are being reviewed by other Federal partners. Mr. Paul Moore, NIOSH, has already reviewed a revised agenda and the goals/outcomes will be shared with the rest of the subcommittee very soon. There are other related opportunities and meetings that have come up with Ambulance Safety in mind as well.

Mr. Troup, USFA, mentioned that there is a lot going on in Emergency Vehicle Safety.

- They have completed a very innovating web-based training program with the NVFC as a follow-on for the Vehicle Safety Training Initiatives that focuses on the volunteer and small combination emergency service organizations. It is an A-Z education program on emergency vehicle safety for the volunteer fire and emergency services communities. They have received numerous positive comments and the program will be on the NVFC and USFA websites.
- The Ambulance Crash Testing Project on Emergency Vehicle Occupant Safety is still underway and will hopefully have results by early FY06.
- DOJ has provided funding for the next phase of the Emergency Lighting Study that USFA has been involved in as well.

Mr. Paul Moore, NIOSH, reported of a new vehicle for crash testing. Mr. Moore will provide Mr. Krumpertman a copy of the report with data.

OSHA had nothing to report at this time.

Mr. Terry Mullins, shared information relevant to the HRSA-EMS Trauma Program specifically the Annual Grand T Meeting will be held February 22-24, 2006 in Crystal City, VA. At this meeting, they will be releasing a document that has been in a long time revision phase that provides a model for trauma systems as they move forward to taking a public health approach to trauma system implementation. Any participants involved in the revision process, Cheryl Anderson and the HRSA staff is thankful for your participation and understanding as we move this process forward.

Mr. John McDonald, GSA, announced that the Ambulance program will be open in the next week or so for those interested in purchasing ambulances.

Mr. Bryson asked that we take a moment to reintroduce Dr. Boyd as it would be advantageous to the group to understand his involvement (past and present) in EMS.

Dr. Boyd, Indian Health Service, provided a brief synopsis to the group on his involvement and experience relating to EMS.

Mr. Brasko, reiterated a couple of things from the main FICEMS meeting earlier this morning regarding the legalities and logistics that need to be worked out regarding the FICEMS transition. He mentioned that the next meeting will follow this format.

Mr. Brasko also reported (as a result of Hurricane Katrina/Rita) that it was suggested in the earlier meeting to re-establish a disaster subcommittee as there are many lessons learned that could be valuable to those in this group.

Mr. Les Becker, reported that Bedford Research & Fire (under a NHTSA task order) are holding a steering committee meeting next week for feasible for EMS workplace safety & health surveillance. The goal is to put together some working documents and then there will be a broader consensus meeting in the spring where we can agree on the framework.

Mr. Larry Wiersch, Cetronia Ambulance Corps, mentioned they had their professional standards meeting yesterday and have launched a survey relating to the basic baseline. The comments received were related to those looking for policy, how to implement more effectively and best practices. They would like a broader scope of data and the survey is available to all if you are interested. Please contact Larry Wiersch for more information.

Mr. Wiersch also reported that they are working with NHTSA on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Symposium on Ambulance Safety. The timeframe that they are looking at is early spring with a similar audience from the year before. He also suggested doing this back-to-back with the NHTSA Data Program to consolidate travel.

Mr. John McDonald, GSA, also reported that they are working on their annual revision process for Rev. F of the Ambulance Standards document and would welcome comments prior to the release of the published document. There is a formal comment process available using the GSA website or you can also submit comments via email to [jmcdonald@gsa.gov](mailto:jmcdonald@gsa.gov).

#### **IV. NEXT MEETING AGENDA ITEMS**

Ms. Romano requested that Mr. Billy Rutherford discuss his meeting with/visit to EMS Division, Fire Department, City of New York, on October 26, 2005

**1. Purpose of the Visit.** To discuss the use of the Department's Ambulance Simulator and how the implementation of the simulator may have contributed to the reduction in ambulance crashes.

**2. Personnel Visited.** LT Robert Raheb, EVOC, Bureau of Training and Chief James P. Martin, Division Chief, Chief of EMS Training. Contact information.

**3. Background.** In 2002, NASCAR donated funds to the FDNY to purchase driver training simulators for an ambulance and two fire apparatus. The fire apparatus simulators are installed at the fire academy and the ambulance simulator is installed at the EMS Academy, Fort Totten, Bayside, N.Y.

#### **V. NEW and/or ONGOING ACTION ITEMS**

- No new or ongoing action items to report at this time.

#### **VI. NEXT MEETING**

March 2, 2005, 1:00 p.m.

Tentative location: NHTSA/FAA Building, Washington, DC

Backup location: HRSA, Rockville, MD

#### **VII. ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 1:26 p.m.